



PTO/SB/21 (08-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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| | | | 10/709,305 | | |
| TRANSMITTAL | | Filing Date | April 28, 2004 | | |
| FORM | | First Named Inventor | Katsuhiro Itakura | | |
| (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | | Art Unit | (to be assigned) | | |
| | | Examiner Name | (to be assign | red) | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 25 | Attorney Docket Number | 39.036 | | |
| | ENC | LOSURES (Check all that | apply) | | |
| Fee Transmittal Form Fee Attached Amendment/Reply After Final Affidavits/declaration(s) Extension of Time Request Express Abandonment Request Information Disclosure Statement Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | | Drawing(s) Licensing-related Papers Petition Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Addre Terminal Disclaimer Request for Refund CD, Number of CD(s) | ess C | o Group ppeal Cor f Appeals ppeal Cor Appeal Not roprietary | osure(s) (please |
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| Firm or Judge Patent Fil | rm | A . A | | | |
| Signature | | - James | chex. | | |
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| I hereby certify that this correspondence is sufficient postage as first class mail in an er the date shown below. | peing facsi evelope ad | mile transmitted to the US PTO or dressed to: Commissioner for Pat | deposited with th tents, P.O. Box 14 | e United \$ I50, Alexa | States Postal Service with Indria, VA 22313-1450 on |
| Typed or printed name | | | | | |
| Signature | | | | Date | |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No.

10/709,305

Applicant

Katsuhiro Itakura

Filed

April 28, 2004

Tech. Cntr./Art Unit

(To be assigned)

Examiner

(To be assigned)

Docket No.

39.036

Customer No.

29453

Honorable Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This constitutes an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. The attached documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08A are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention in the patent application identified above.

REMARKS

Cite Nos. U1 through U5 and F1, listed on Form PTO/SB/08A submitted herewith, were cited in a communication from the European Patent Office in a counterpart application.

For the Examiner's reference, a copy of the European Search Report also accompanies this paper. Of the seven references cited in the Search Report, the abstract from JP 9-253882 has already been submitted in an IDS dated August 12, 2004 in the instant case, and because it is thus cumulative to material already made of record the reference is not being submitted here. Further, only an English abstract—from Patent Abstracts of Japan—was cited in the Search Report as the reference listed as Cite No. F1 on Form PTO/SB/08A, and thus only the abstract itself is being submitted here.

App. No. 10/709,305 **IDS Submission**

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider these references, and to indicate so on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08A and make the document of record in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

September 24, 2004

James W. Judge

Registration No. 42,701

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PTO/SB/08A (10-01)
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Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449A/PTO 10/709,305 April 28, 2004 **Application Number** INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Filing Date Katsuhiro Itakura STATEMENT BY APPLICANT **First Named Inventor** Art Unit (To be assigned) (use as many sheets as necessary) (To be assigned) **Examiner Name** Attorney Docket Number 39.036 Sheet of

| | | | U.S. PATI | ENT DOCUMENTS | |
|----------------------|-----|---|---|--|---|
| Examiner Initials | | Document Number Number - Kind Code ² (if known | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | U1 | US- 5,243,153-A | 08-10-1993 | Bacon et al. | |
| | U2 | us-6,386,426-B1 | 05-14-2002 | Tadauchi et al. | |
| | U3 | us- 2003/0021719-A1 | 01-30-2003 | Taguchi et al. | |
| | U4 | us- 4,757,934-A | 07-19-1988 | Greenstein | |
| | U5 | us- 3,396,454-A | 08-13-1968 | J.P. Murdock et al. | |
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| | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials | Cite No.1 | Foreign Patent Document Country Code 3 - Number 4 - Kind Code 5 (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | _T 6 | |
| | F1 | JP-2000-138334 (PAJ) | 05-16-2000 | Kyowa Densen KK | Abstract | V | |
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.